

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for a first communication device ~~(B)~~ of maintaining an up-to-date configuration description of a second communication device ~~(A)~~, said first device ~~(A)~~ comprises a storage medium and is adapted for storing on said storage medium configuration descriptions being uniquely identified by ~~a configuration identifier (C#)~~ identifiers, the method comprises the ~~steps~~ acts of:

[[-]] receiving ~~(701)~~ from the second device ~~A~~ information comprising a configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ uniquely identifying the a configuration of the second device ~~(A)~~,

[[-]] checking ~~(703)~~ whether ~~the~~ a configuration description identified by the received configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ is already stored on the storage medium, if said configuration description is

already stored on the storage medium, setting ~~(705)~~ the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ as ~~the~~ an active configuration description of the second device ~~(A)~~,

[[~~-~~]] if said first configuration description identified by the configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ is not stored on the storage medium, requesting and receiving ~~(707)~~ the configuration description from said second device ~~(A)~~, storing said configuration description together with said configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ on said storage medium and setting ~~(709)~~ the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ as the active configuration description of the second device ~~(A)~~,

receiving from the second device a leave message,

in response to the leave message, changing the configuration description to inactive without deleting from the storage medium the configuration description corresponding to the configuration identifier.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the unique configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ comprises an identification of the second device ~~(A)~~.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the configuration description comprises an identification of ~~the~~ services offered by the second device ~~(A)~~.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the configuration identifier ~~(C#)~~ is a device specific configuration number uniquely identifying the configuration of the device.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the configuration descriptions on the storage medium, which have not been accessed for the longest time period, are deleted from the storage medium.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the second device generates the configuration identifier

~~(C#)~~ by deriving it from the configuration description using fingerprinting.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method according to claim 1, wherein the first device ~~(B)~~ is a control point in an UPnP network, and the second device ~~(A)~~ is an UPnP device being part of the UPnP network.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for maintaining an up-to-date configuration description of a second communication device, said apparatus comprises a storage medium and is adapted for storing on said storage medium configuration descriptions being uniquely identified by ~~a configuration identifier~~ identifiers, the apparatus comprises:

[[-]] means for receiving from the second device information comprising a configuration identifier uniquely identifying ~~the a~~ configuration of the second device,

[[-]] means for checking whether the configuration description identified by the received configuration identifier is already stored on the storage medium,

[[-]] means for, if said configuration description identified by the configuration identifier is stored on the storage medium, setting the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier as the an active configuration description of the second device,

[[-]] means for, if said configuration description identified by the configuration identifier is not stored on the storage medium, requesting and receiving the configuration description from said second device, storing said configuration description together with said configuration identifier on said storage medium and setting the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier as the active configuration description of the second device,

means for receiving from the second device a leave message,
and

means for changing, in response to the leave message, the configuration description stored in the storage medium to inactive, without deleting from the storage medium the configuration description corresponding to the configuration identifier.

9. (Currently Amended) An UPnP control point for maintaining an up-to-date configuration description of a UPnP device, said control point comprises a storage medium and is adapted for storing on said storage medium configuration descriptions being uniquely identified by ~~a configuration identifier~~ identifiers, the control point comprises:

[[-]] means for receiving from the ~~second~~ UPnP device information comprising a configuration identifier uniquely identifying ~~the a~~ a configuration of the UPnP device,

[[-]] means for checking whether the configuration description identified by the received configuration identifier is already stored on the storage medium,

[[-]] means for, if said configuration description identified by the configuration identifier is stored on the storage medium, setting the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier as ~~the an~~ an active configuration description of the UPnP device,

[[-]] means for, if said configuration description identified by the configuration identifier is not stored on the storage medium, requesting and receiving the configuration description from

said UPnP device, storing said configuration description together with said configuration identifier on said storage medium and setting the configuration description corresponding to the received configuration identifier as the active configuration description of the UPnP device,

means for receiving from the UPnP device a leave message, and
means for changing, in response to the leave message, the
configuration description stored in the storage medium to inactive,
without deleting from the storage medium the configuration
description corresponding to the configuration identifier.

10.(New) The method of claim 1, further comprising the acts of:

receiving an announcement from the second device including the configuration identifier; and

setting active the configuration description stored in the storage medium without downloading the configuration description.

11.(New) The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

means for receiving an announcement from the second device

including the configuration identifier; and

means for setting active the configuration description stored in the storage medium without downloading the configuration description.

12. (New) The UPnP control point of claim 9, further comprising:

means for receiving an announcement from the UPnP device including the configuration identifier; and

means for setting active the configuration description stored in the storage medium without downloading the configuration description.